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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

26694 7590 03/03/2004
VENABLE, BAETJER, HOWARD AND CIVILETTI, LLP
P.O. BOX 34385
WASHINGTON, DC 20043-9998

EXAMINER	
WILLIAMS, ALEXANDER O	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2826	
DATE MAILED: 03/03/2004	

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/736,140	12/15/2000	Toyokazu Sakata	32011-168503	8430
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TITLE OF INVENTION: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE AND SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHOD

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE	PUBLICATION FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1330	\$0	\$1330	06/03/2004

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE REFLECTS A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE APPLIED IN THIS APPLICATION. THE PTOL-85B (OR AN EQUIVALENT) MUST BE RETURNED WITHIN THIS PERIOD EVEN IF NO FEE IS DUE OR THE APPLICATION WILL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status is changed, pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above and notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of the change in status, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check the box below and enclose the PUBLICATION FEE and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

☐ Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status.
See 37 CFR 1.27.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL should be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Even if the fee(s) have already been paid, Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and returned. If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail**

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(703) 746-4000**

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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 4 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Legibly mark-up with any corrections or use Block 1)

26694 7590 03/03/2004

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Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

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09/736,140	12/15/2000	Toyokazu Sakata	32011-168503	8430
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nonprovisional	NO	\$1330	\$0	\$1330	06/03/2004

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
WILLIAMS, ALEXANDER O	2826	257-774000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. Inclusion of assignee data is only appropriate when an assignment has been previously submitted to the USPTO or is being submitted under separate cover. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent); ☐ individual ☐ corporation or other private group entity ☐ government

4a. The following fee(s) are enclosed:

- ☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s):

- ☐ A check in the amount of the fee(s) is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized by charge the required fee(s), or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

Director for Patents is requested to apply the Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if any) or to re-apply any previously paid issue fee to the application identified above.

(Authorized Signature)

(Date)

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

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26694	7590	03/03/2004	EXAMINER	
VENABLE, BAETJER, HOWARD AND CIVILETTI, LLP P.O. BOX 34385 WASHINGTON, DC 20043-9998			WILLIAMS, ALEXANDER O	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2826	
DATE MAILED: 03/03/2004				

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 0 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 0 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (703) 305-1383. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at (703) 305-8283.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/736,140	SAKATA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Alexander O Williams	2826	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

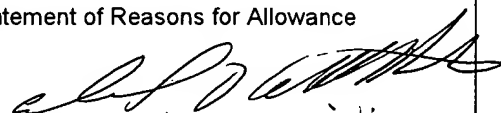
1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed 12/5/03.
 2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8 and 20-22; renumbered 1-8 and 9-11.
 3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12/15/00 are accepted by the Examiner.
 4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.

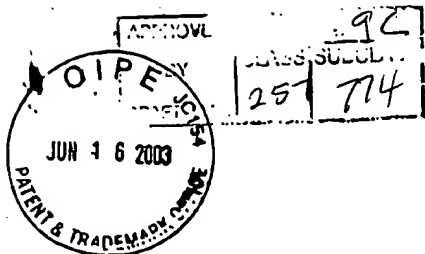
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |


 Alexander O. Williams
 Primary Examiner



APPROVED	O.G. FIG. 9C
BY	CLASS SUBCLASS
DRAFTSMAN	257 774

FIG. 1(A)

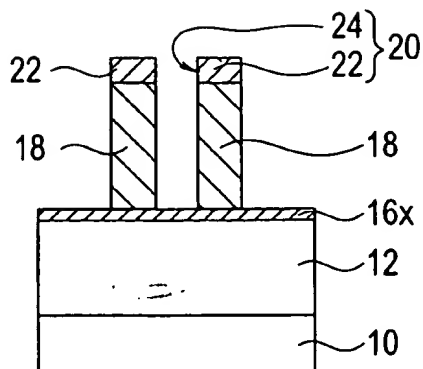


FIG. 1(B)

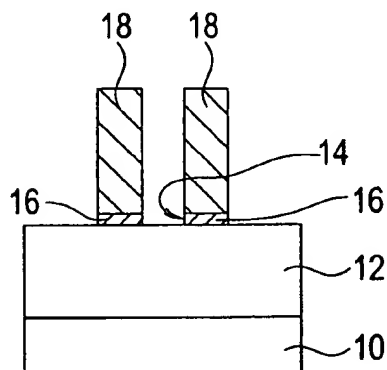
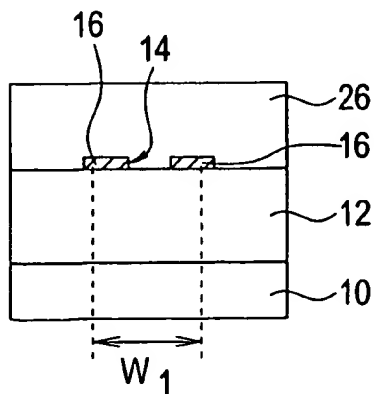


FIG. 1(C)



APPROVED	O.G. FIG.
	CLASS SUBCLASS
BY	DRAFTSMAN

FIG. 2(A)

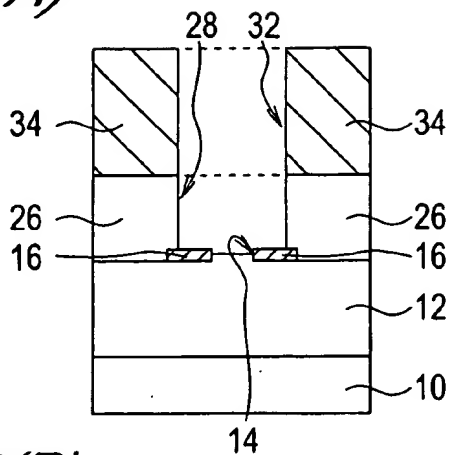
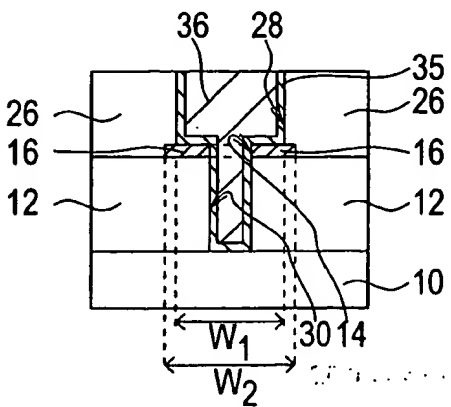
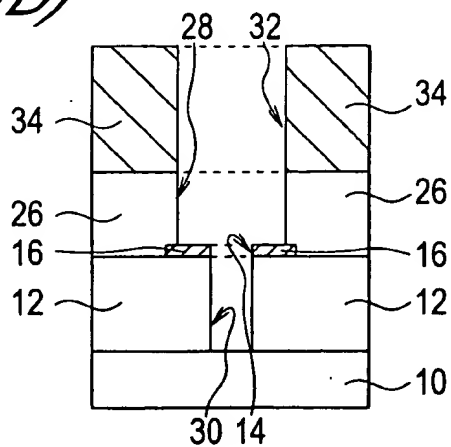
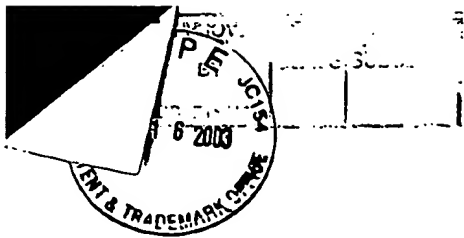


FIG. 2(B)





APPROVED	O.G. FIG.
BY	CLASS/SUBCLASS
DRAFTSMAN	

FIG. 3(A)

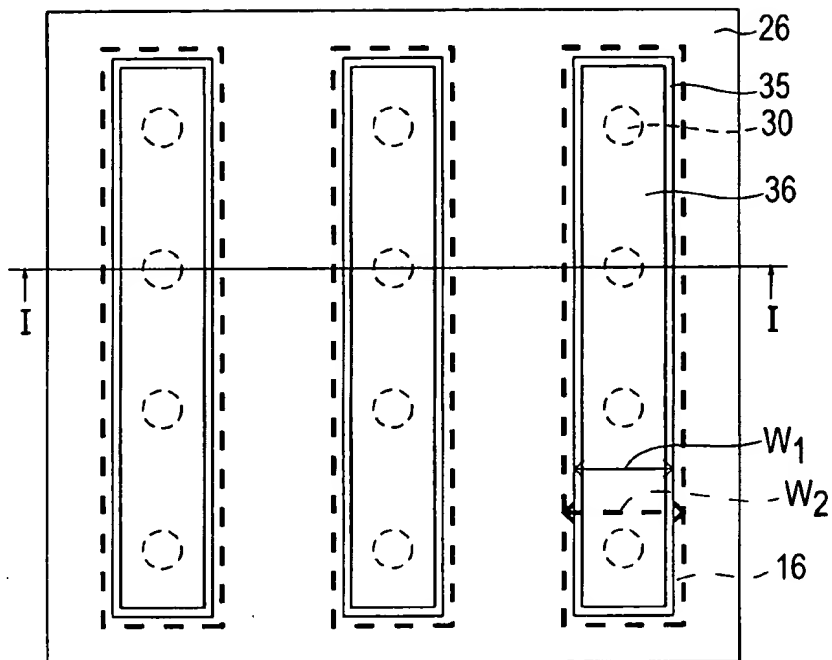
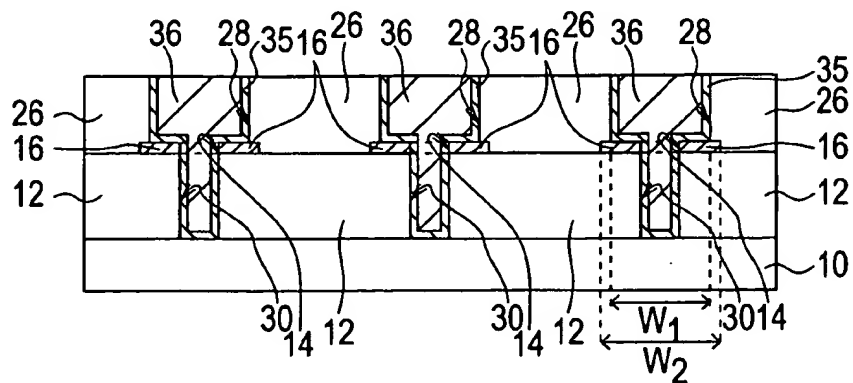
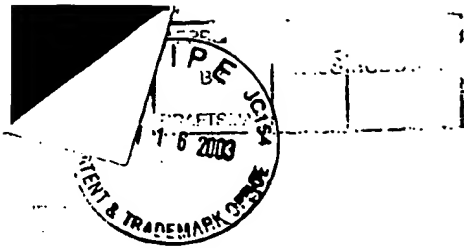


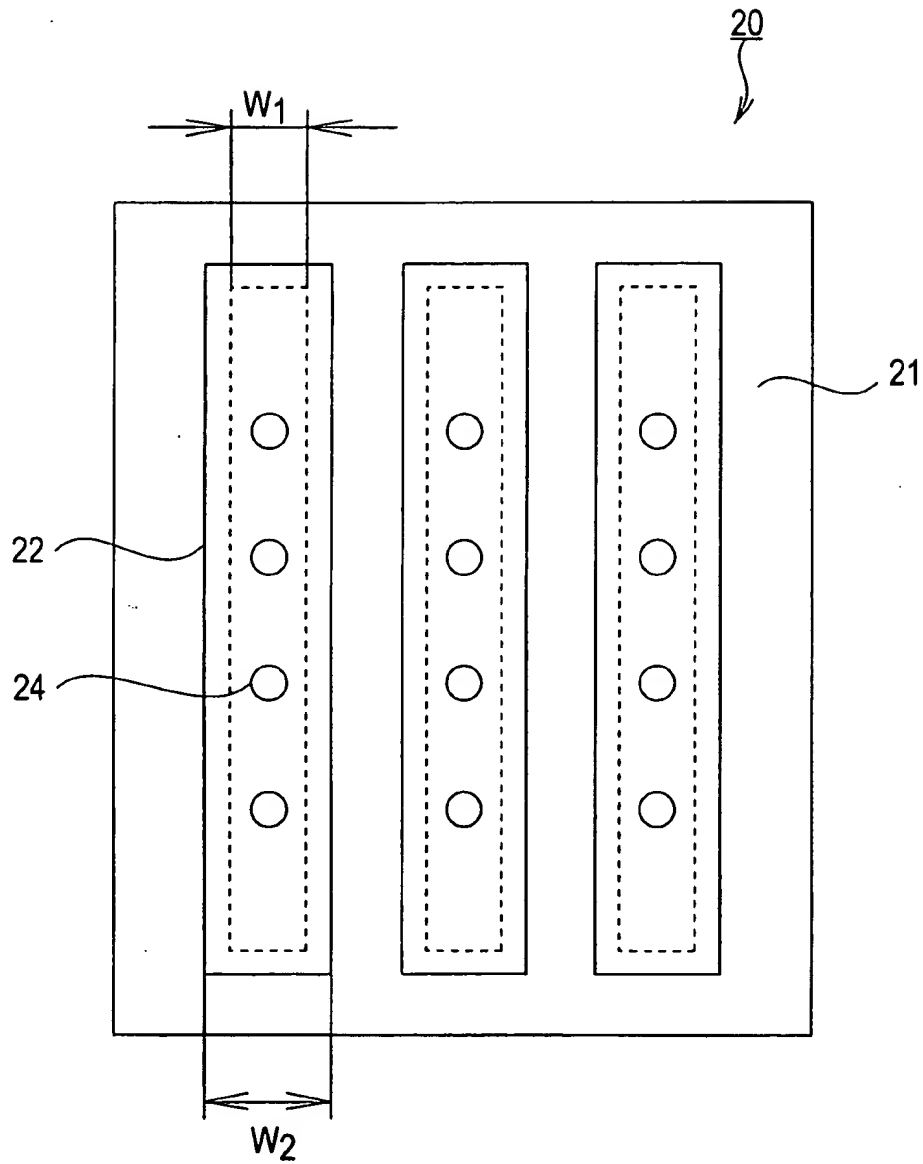
FIG. 3(B)





APPROVED	O.G. FIG.
BY	CLASS/SUBCLASS
DRAFTSMAN	

FIG. 4



RECORD OF CHANGES

REVISION

RECORD



APPROVED O.G. FIG.	CLASS/SUBCLASS
BY	DRAFTSMAN

FIG. 5(A)

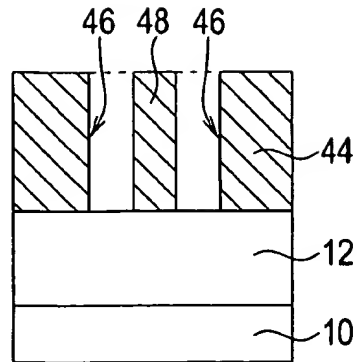


FIG. 5(B)

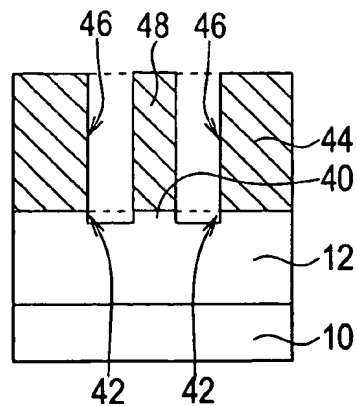
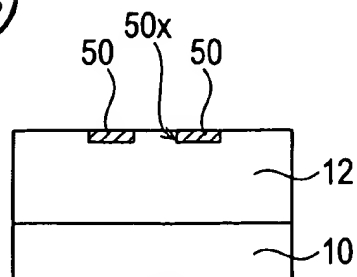


FIG. 5(C)



1000000 1000000 1000000

1000000 1000000 1000000

1000000 1000000 1000000

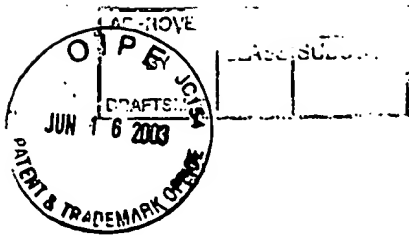


FIG. 6(A)

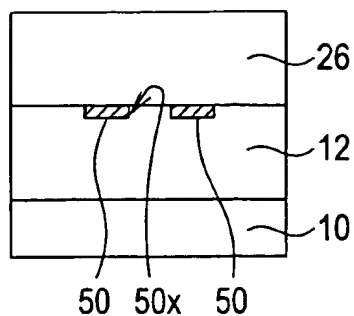


FIG. 6(B)

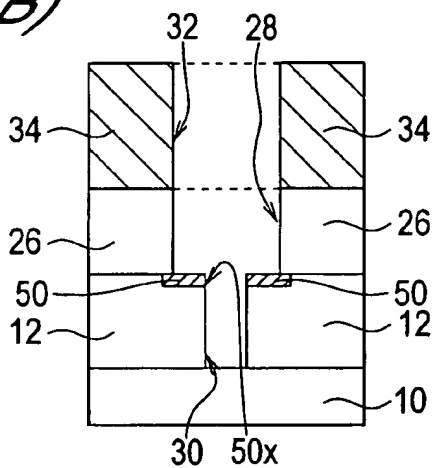


FIG. 6(C)

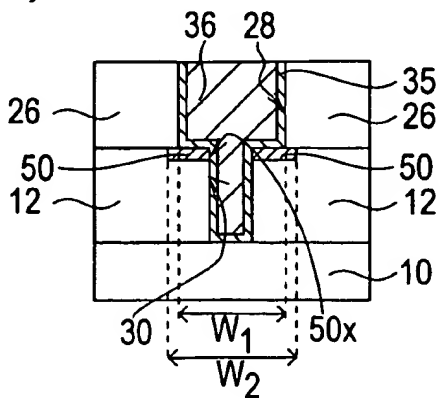


FIG. 6(D) is a cross-sectional view of a device, similar to FIG. 6(C) but with additional features. It shows a substrate 10 with a layer 12 on top. A layer 26 is positioned above layer 12. A central feature 50x is shown, flanked by two regions 50. The top surface of the central feature is indicated by a dashed line. Additional features 30, 36, 28, 35, and 26 are labeled. Dimensions W1 and W2 are indicated at the bottom.

FIG. 6(E)



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BY	CLASS/SUBCLASS
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FIG. 7(A)

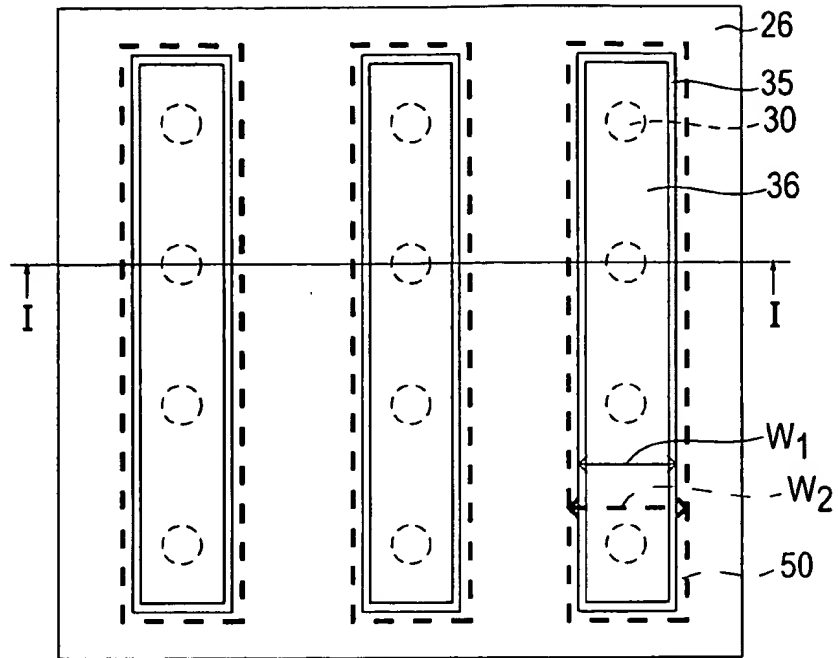


FIG. 7(B)

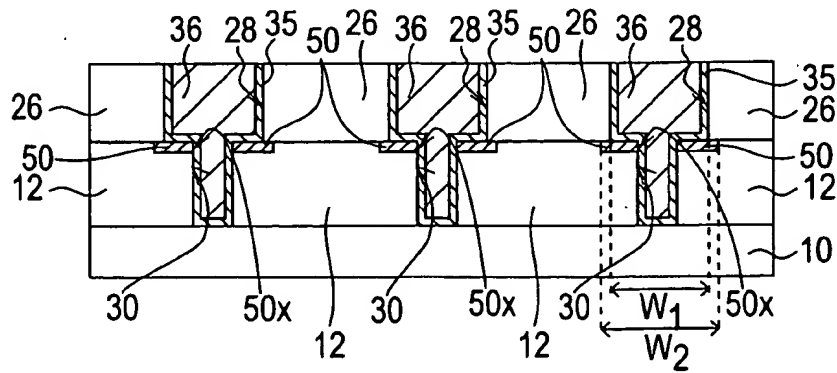


FIG. 7(B) - OTHER SIDE

FIG. 7(C)

FIG. 7(D)



FIG. 8(A)

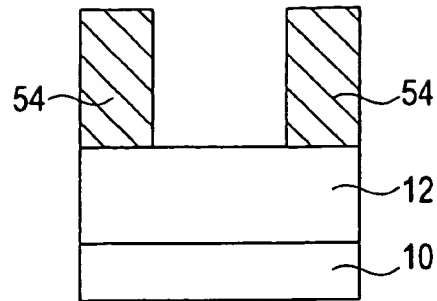


FIG. 8(B)

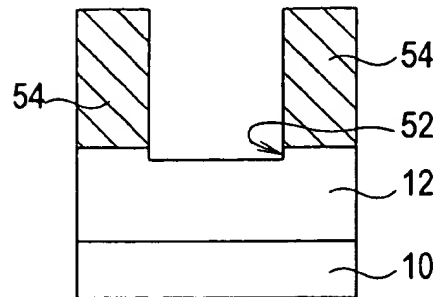


FIG. 8(C)

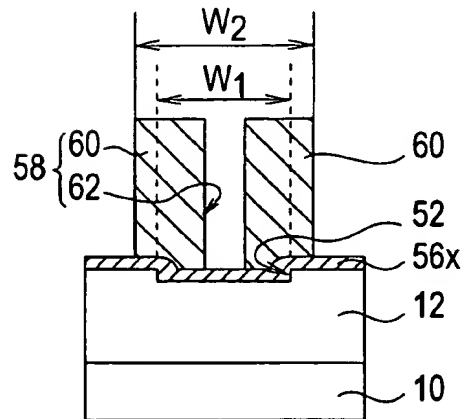
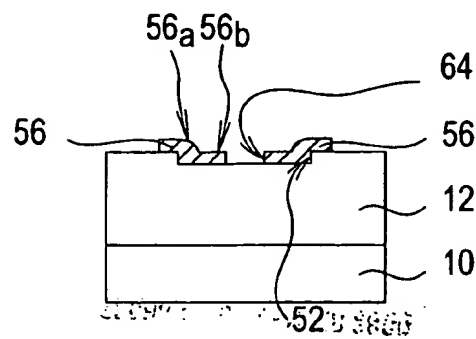


FIG. 8(D)



APPROVED	O. G. FIG.
BY	CLASS/SUBCLASS
DRAFTSMAN	



9C
257 774

APPROVED BY DRAFTSMAN	O.G. FIG. 9C
	CLASS SUBCLAS: 357 774

FIG. 9(A)

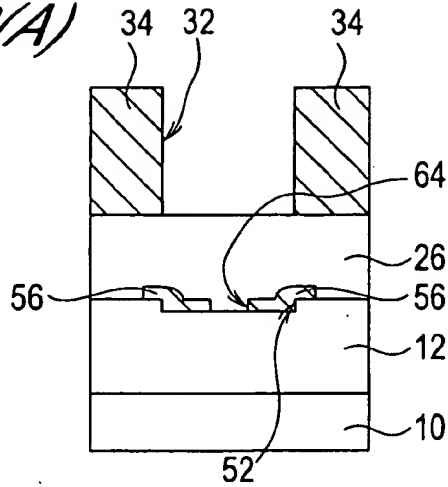


FIG. 9(B)

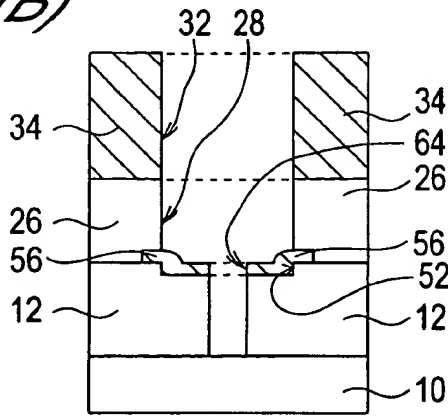


FIG. 9(C)

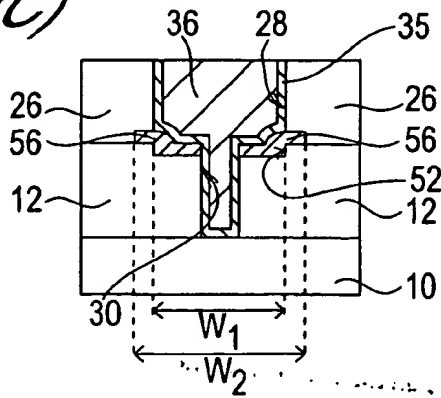




FIG. 10(A)

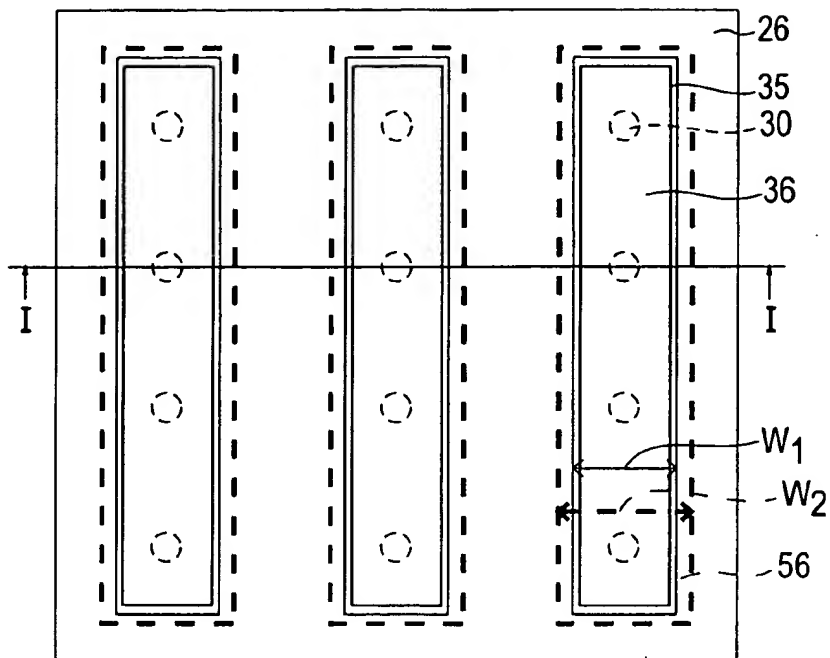
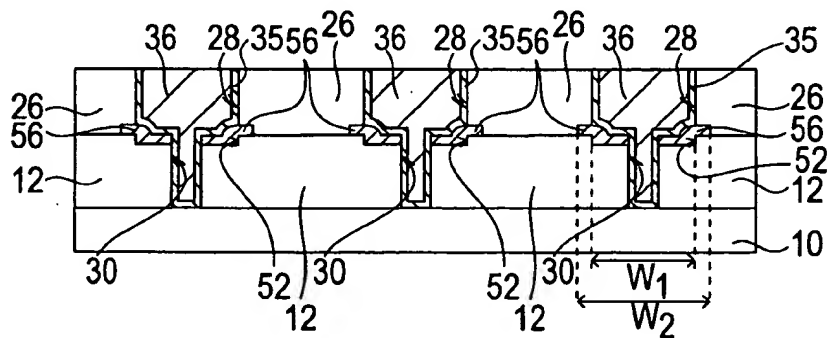


FIG. 10(B)



INVENTOR: [Signature]

BY: [Signature]

DATE: [Signature]



APPROVED	O. G. FIG.	CLASS. SUBCLAS.
BY		
DRAFTSMAN		

FIG. 11(A)

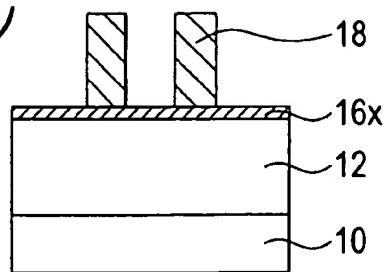


FIG. 11(B)

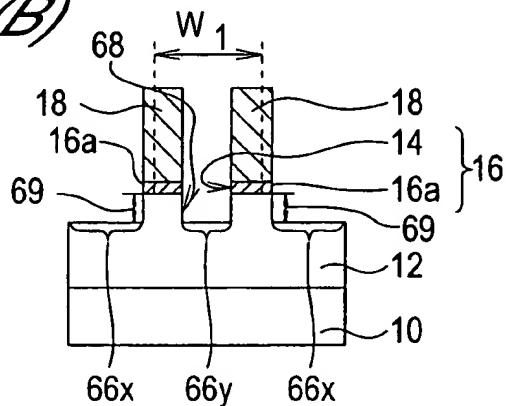


FIG. 11(C)

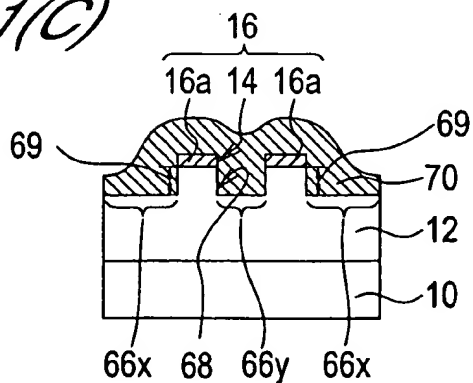
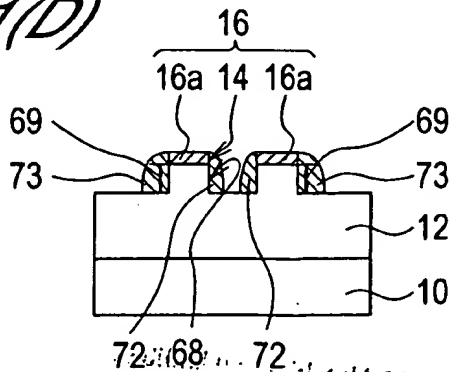
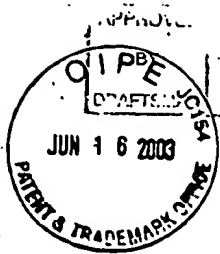


FIG. 11(D)





APPROVED	O.G. FIG.	BY	DRAFTSMAN
	CLASS		

FIG. 12(A)

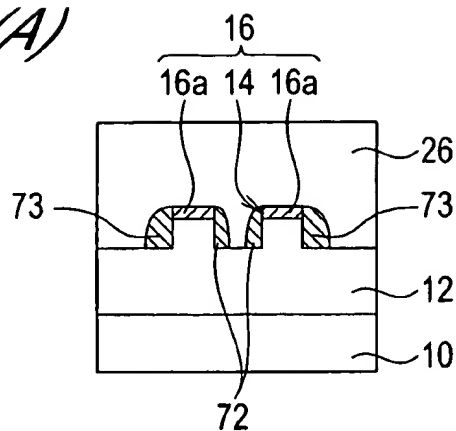


FIG. 12(B)

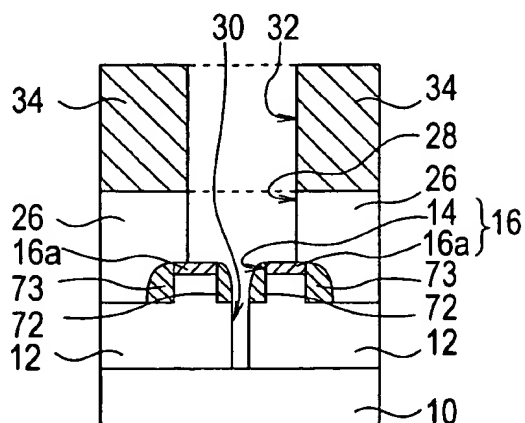
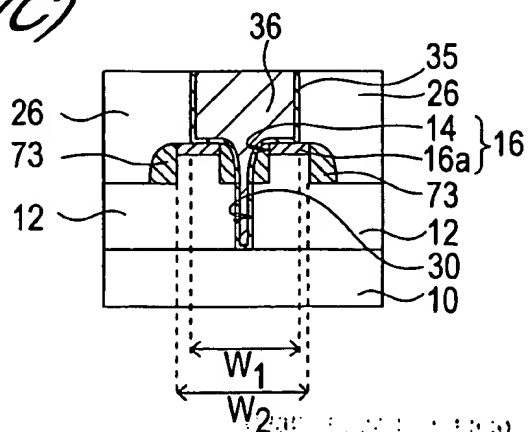


FIG. 12(C)



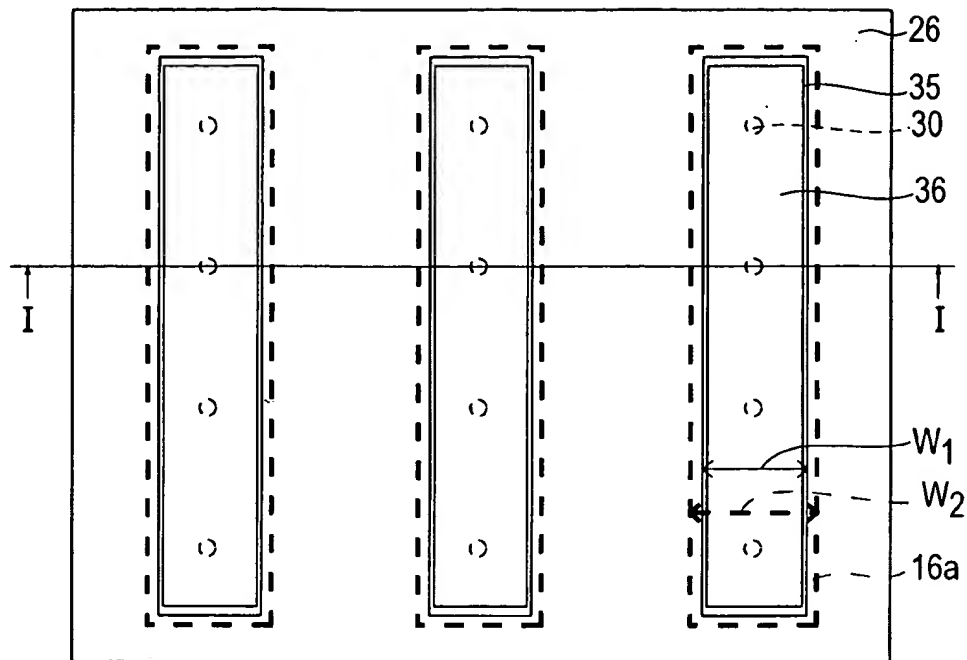
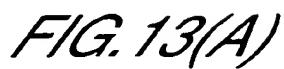
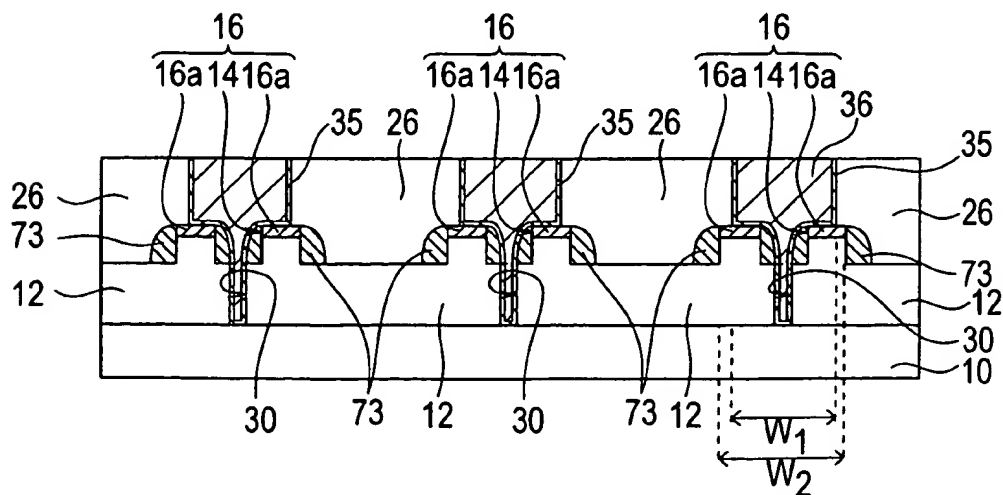


FIG. 13(B)



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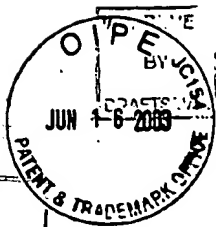


FIG. 14(A)

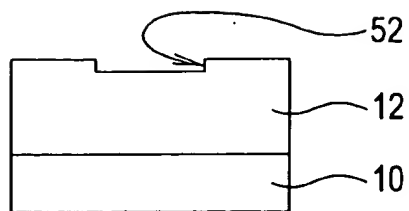


FIG. 14(B)

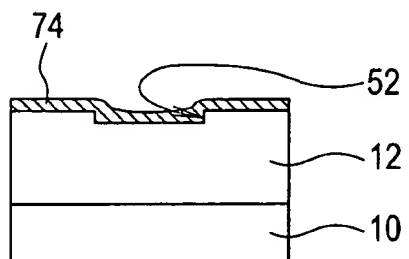


FIG. 14(C)

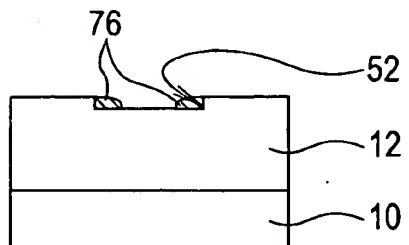
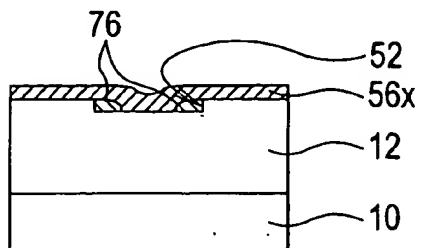
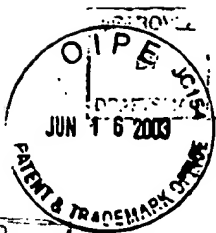


FIG. 14(D)





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FIG. 15(A)

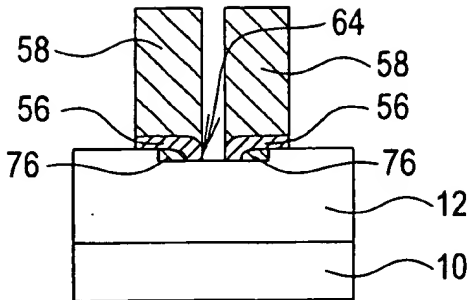


FIG. 15(B)

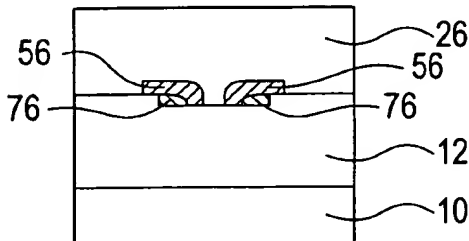


FIG. 15(C)

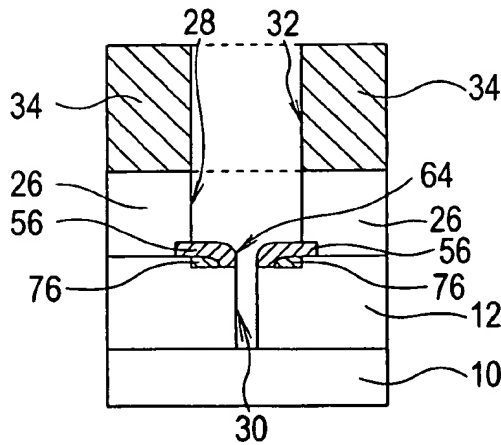
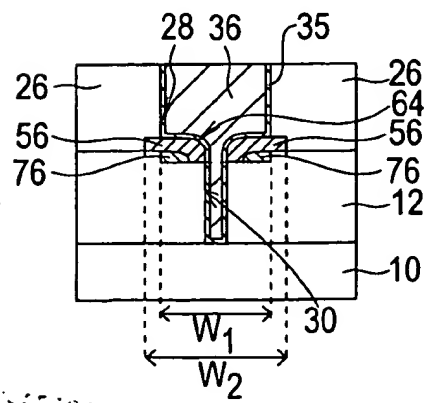


FIG. 15(D)



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BY		DRAFTSMAN		JUN 16 2003	
O.G. FIG.		CLASS SUBCLASS		PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE	

FIG. 16(A)

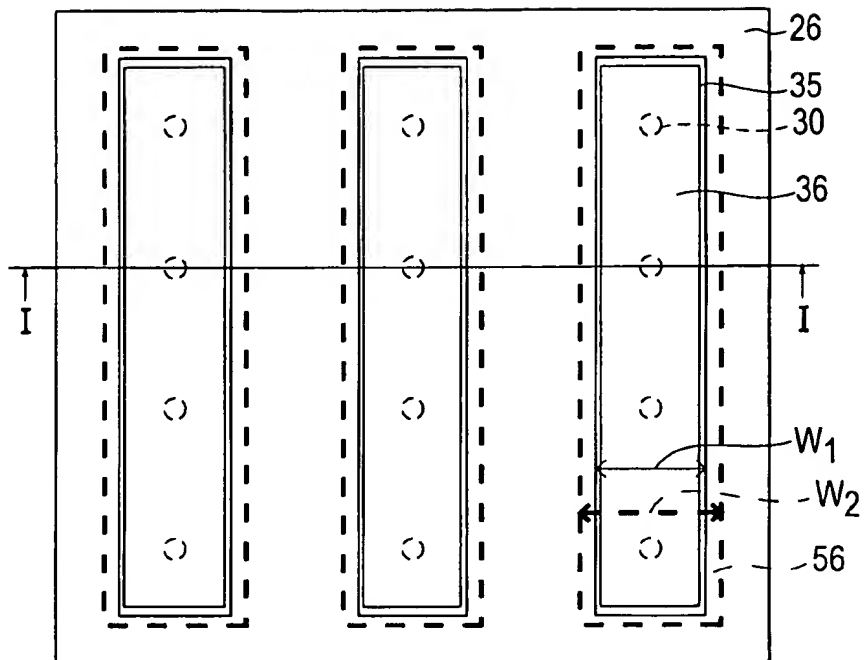
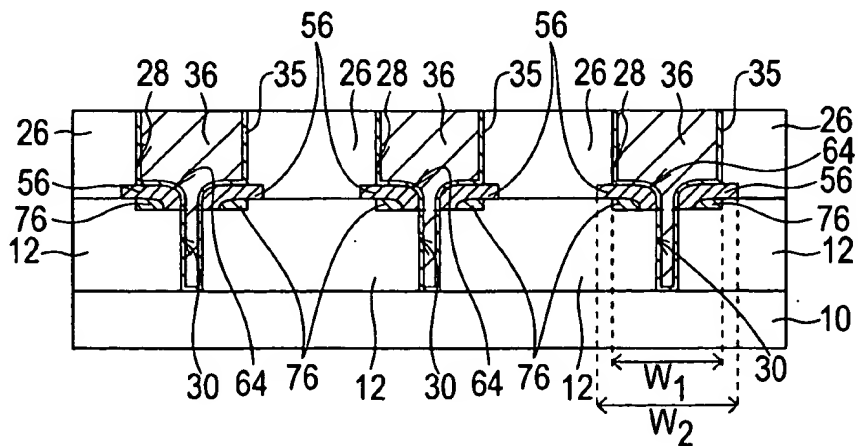


FIG. 16(B)



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FIG. 17(A)

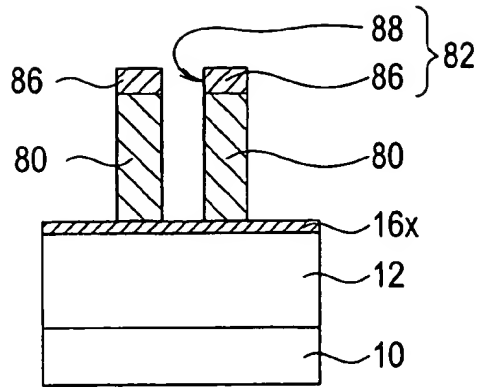


FIG. 17(B)

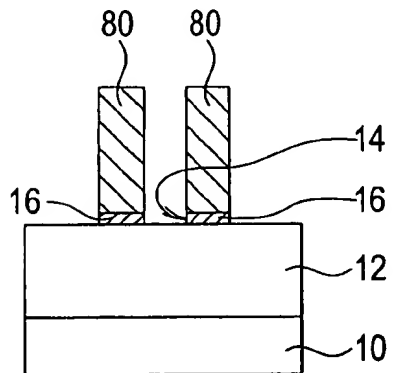
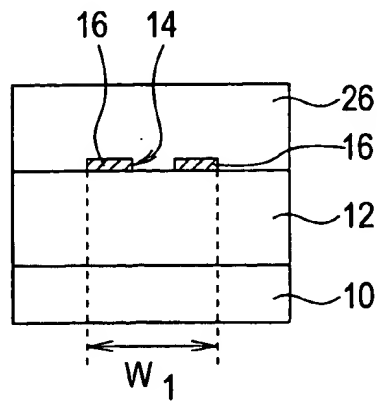
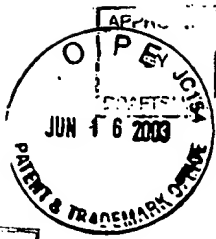


FIG. 17(C)





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FIG. 18(A)

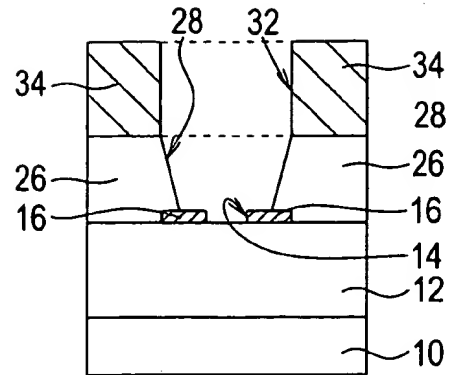


FIG. 18(B)

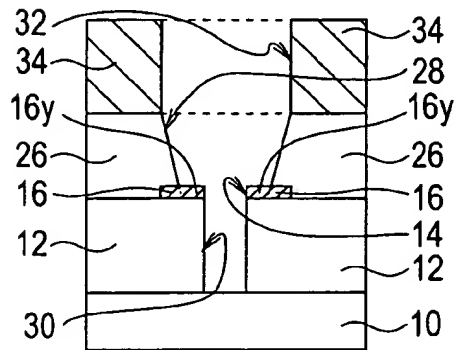


FIG. 18(C)

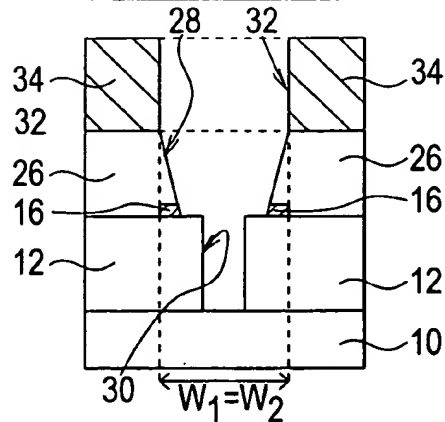
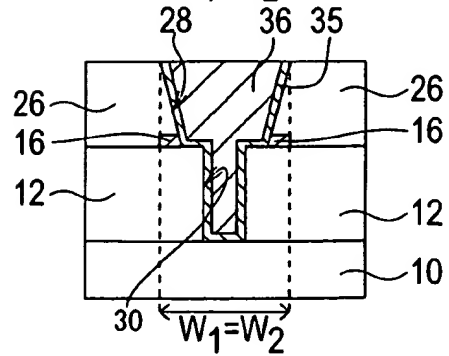


FIG. 18(D)





APPROVED	O.G. FIG.
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FIG. 19(A)

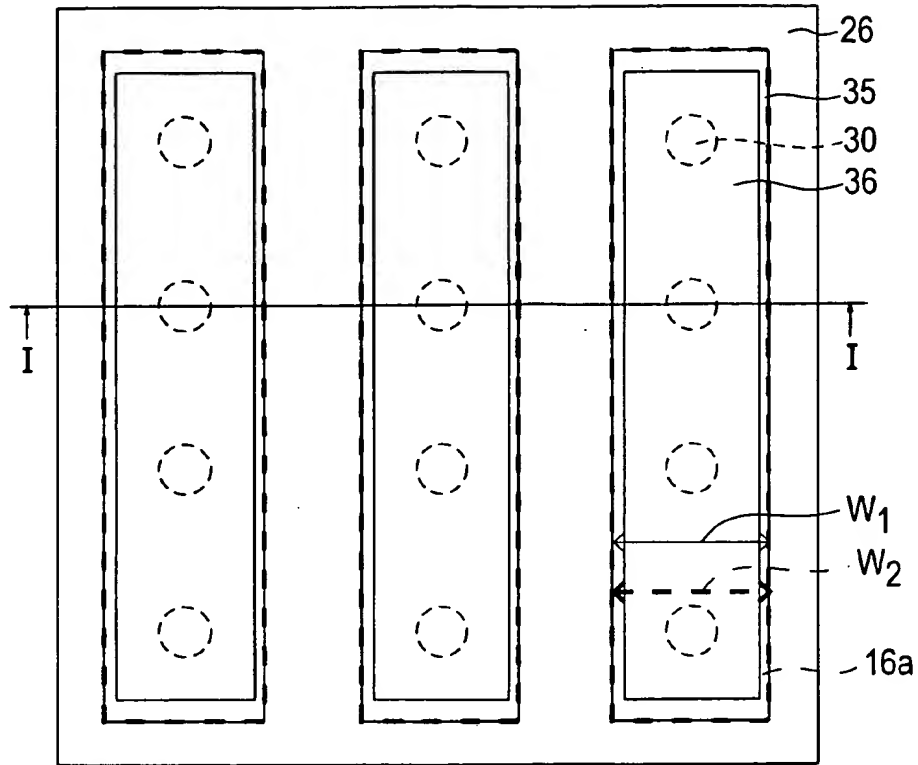
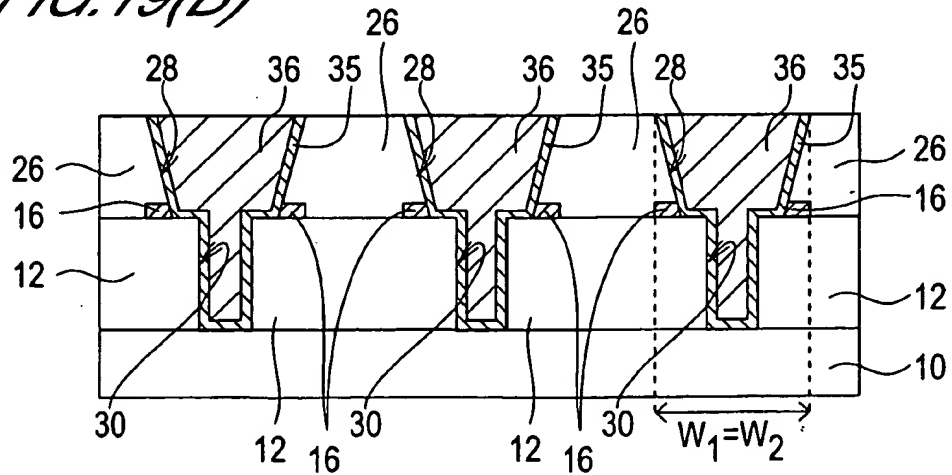
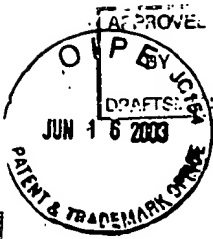


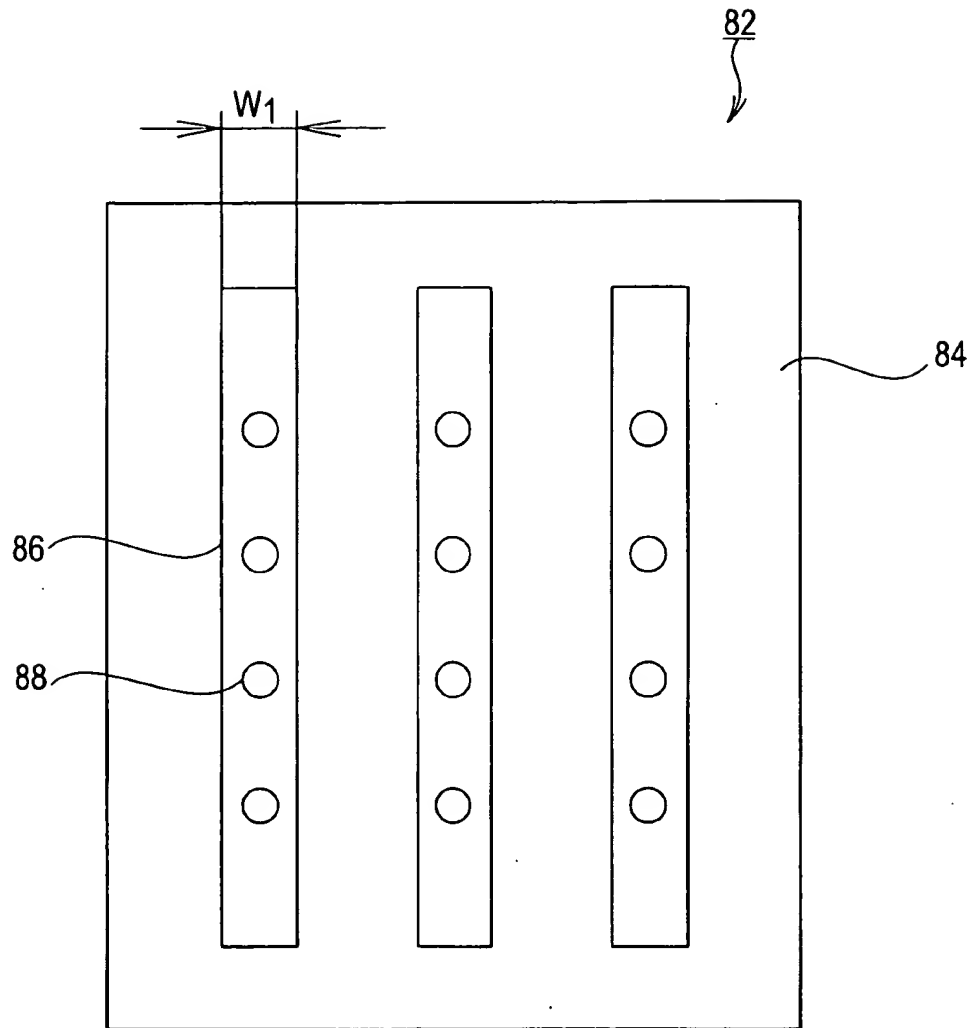
FIG. 19(B)

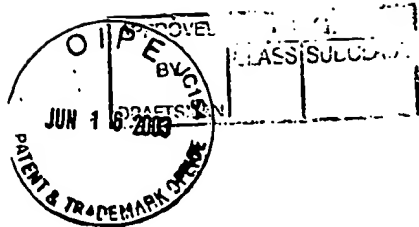




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FIG. 20





APPROVED	O.G. FIG.
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FIG.21(A)

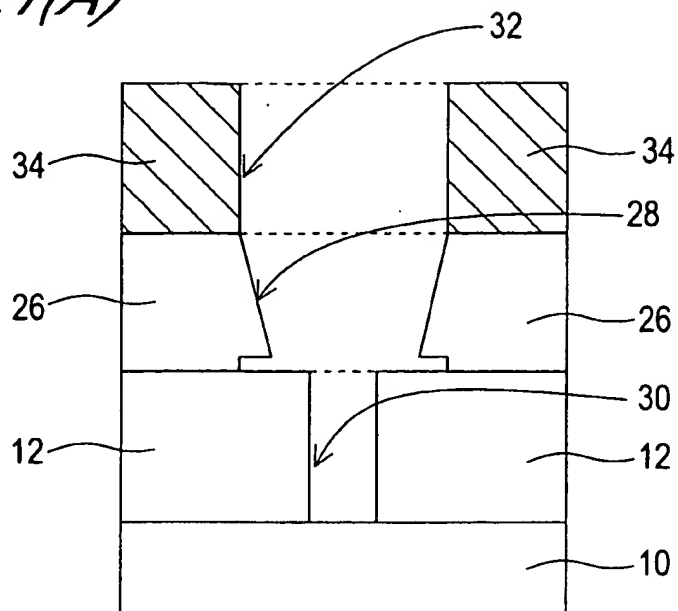


FIG.21(B)

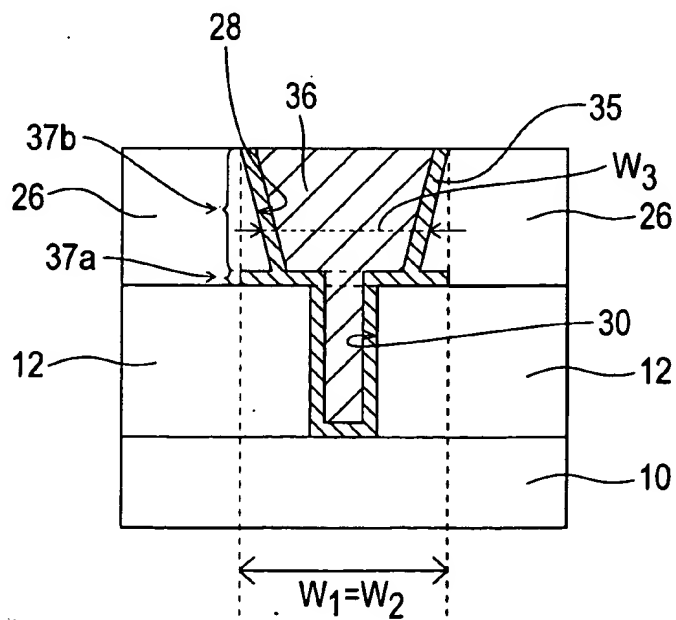




FIG.22(A)

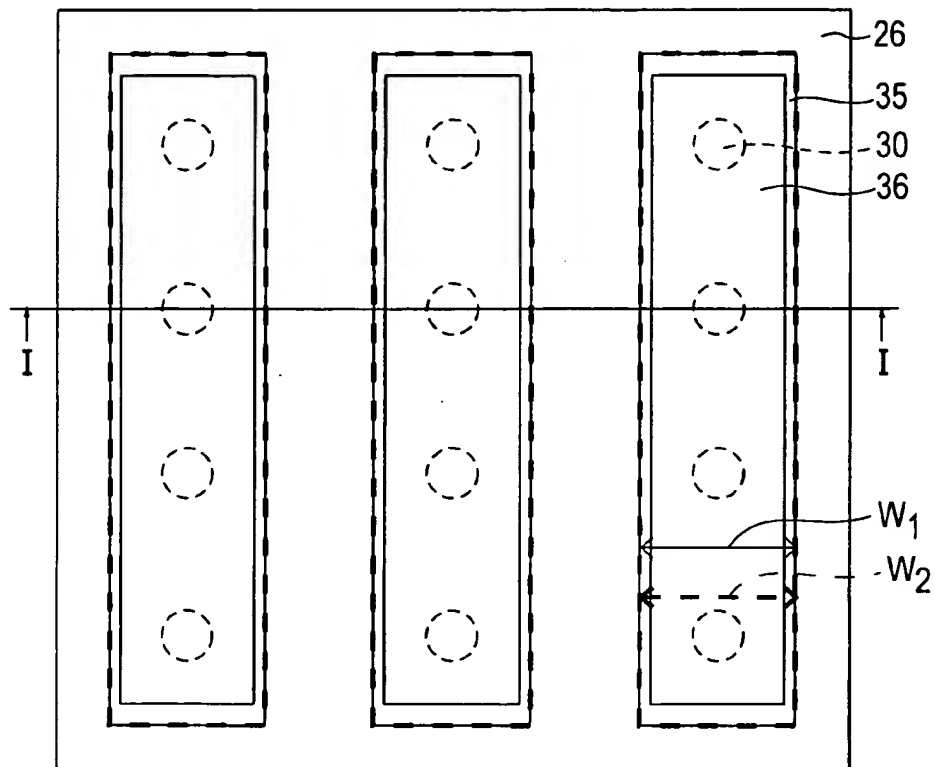
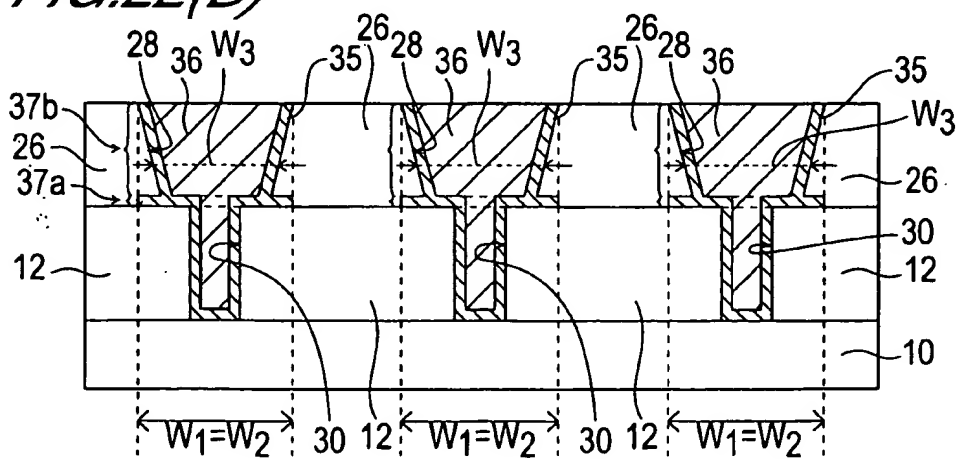


FIG.22(B)





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FIG.23(A)

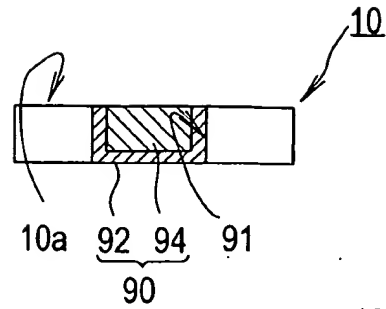


FIG.23(B)

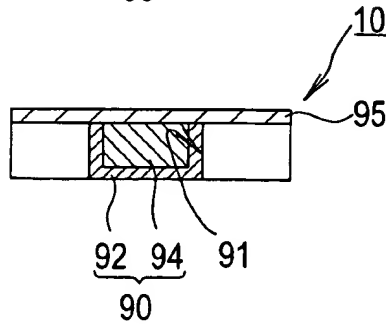


FIG.23(C)

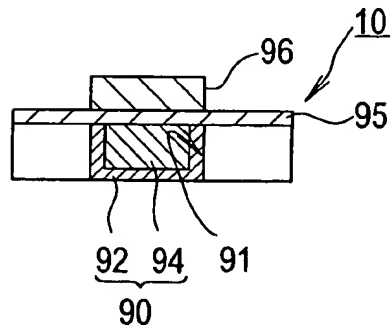
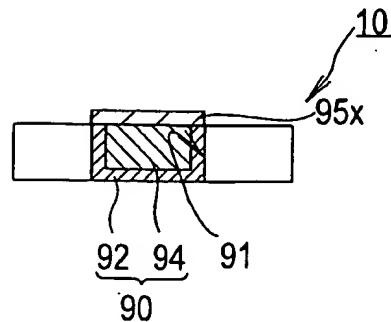


FIG.23(D)





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FIG.24(A)

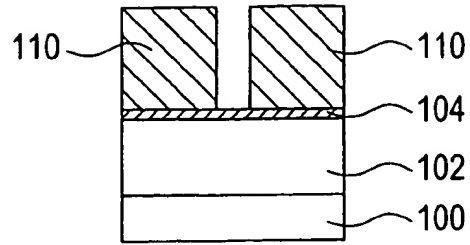


FIG.24(B)

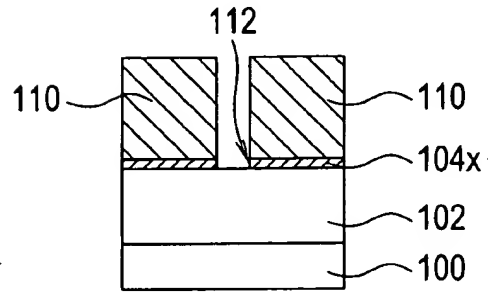


FIG.24(C)

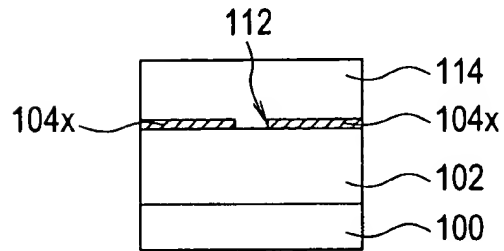


FIG.24(D)

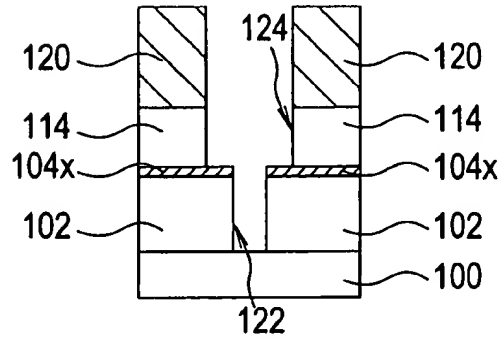
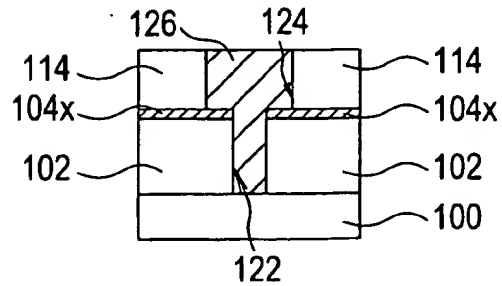


FIG.24(E)



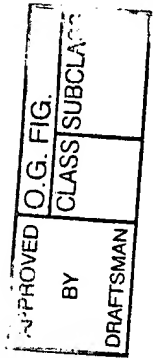
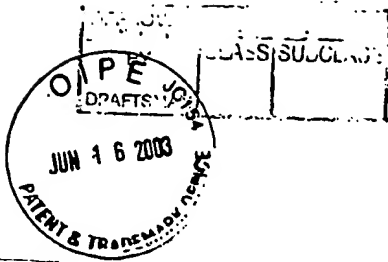


Figure 1 is a schematic diagram of a substrate 106. The substrate is represented by a rectangular area filled with diagonal hatching lines. A grid of nine circular features, labeled 108, is arranged in three rows and three columns within the substrate. A leader line points from the label 108 to one of the circular features.

A cross-sectional view of a substrate 116, indicated by a curved arrow. The substrate is filled with diagonal hatching. Three vertical rectangular structures, labeled 118, are positioned on the top surface of the substrate.



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FIG. 27

